

# The Congregation of God Seventh Day

D.O. Box 2345, Kennesaw, Georgia 30156 - Telephone (770) 427-4189 John A. Piukston, President

May 10, 2007

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Office of tlic Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Attention: CRG Room 3-B431
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Petition for Exemption from Closed Captioning Requirements - Section 79.1(f)

To Whom It May Concern:

The Congregation of God Seventh Day Association, sponsor of the Watch America television program, is a non-profit religious organization located at 2751 S. Main Street, Kennesaw, Georgia 30144. The church produces a 30-minute program to be broadcast each week called "Watch America." This program will be broadcast each Friday morning at 7 AM on WPXA, Channel 14. This program looks at current events in the light of Biblical prophecy and it also discusses other Biblical subjects related to world events.

For the reasons to follow, the Congregation of God Seventh Day Assn. requests exemption from "Closed Captioning" because it creates an undue burden to telecast the "Watch America" program, pursuant to Section 79.1(f) of the Commission's rules.

## Nature and Cost of Closed Captions

The "Watch America" television would have to be sent to an outside source, located in the Baltimore, MD area to Close Caption our programs at a cost of \$200 per 30-minute episode. This would be an additional cost to the \$500 per week paid to the television station to broadcast our 30-minute program. We are a very small group and we do not have the technical means or ability in our congregation to produce our program in a Closed Captioned fashion.

## Impact on the operation of the program

Closed Captioning added to the program would be an undue burden upon the church to the extent we could not afford to do this weekly program. The impact on our ability to reach those that God has called and to reach them through this media of television broadcast would be adversely affected throughout the community, especially among nursing facilities and the youth and young adults that our programs minister to.

Web Page Address: www.watchamerica.com

### Financial Resources of the Program Provider

The Congregation of God Seventh Day is a 501 C-3 organization, (see financial statement attached). The money to pay for the Closed Captioning requirement is not readily available in oir current income status.

## Type of Operation of the Program Provider

The Congregation of God Seventh Day is a church located in Kennesaw, Georgia, that focuses on raising the awareness of our people concerning the need to repent and change their lives. Our church reaches the community through the radio broadcast media and now **we** plan to expand into the television arena, using WPXA, Channel 14.

#### Other Factors

We believe that the local, noli-news exemption to the closed captioning rules also applies to the "Watch America" television as well. The programs are **not** news, but they do provide in depth Biblical training and a consideration of prophecy in the light of current events.

#### Conclusion

As can be seen by this petition and its attachments, the Commission should grant a waiver from the Closed Captioning requirements in our case, because requiring Closed Captioning creates an undue financial burden we are not presently capable of assuming. The cost of closed captioning would highly impact or prevent the broadcasting the "Watch America" television program. Again, let us state that, because of the significant difficulty and expense of pi-oviding Closed Captioning, a waiver under 70.1(f) is warranted. If more information is needed, please contact us at the address provided below

Respectfully submitted

By: John A. Pinkston, Pastor/President The Congregation of God Seventh Day 2751 S. Main St., Kennesaw, GA 30144 (770) 420-9710

#### Enclosed:

- 2006 Financial Statement
- 2. Affidavit

## **Affidavit**

I, John A. Pinkston, Pastor and President of the Congregation of God Seventh Day Association, have reviewed the "Petition for Exemption for Closed Captioning Requirements" and certify that the statements regarding this organization are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

John A. Pinkston, Pastor/President

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Notary Public

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Note:v Public Loop County, **Georgia** dy Commission bypass July **7, 2009** 

## THE CONGREGATION OF GOD SEVENTH DAY Kennesaw, Georgia 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

BEGINNING BALANCE	As of January 1, 2006			,	\$35,187.90
TOTAL DONATIONS for 2006		\$	227,301.79		
FUNDS AVAILABLE				\$	262,489.69
CAPITAL PURCHASES					
	Mortgage Insurance Chevrolel Trailblazer 2005 Equipment, Furnishings & Fixtures	\$ \$ \$	21,830.52 7,417.88 4,893.24 11,343.31		
	zquipmont, i armoningo a rixtaro	Ψ	11,010.01	\$	45,484.95
OPERATING EXPENSES	Services. Supplies. Maint & Repair Utilities & Telephone Office Salary Housing Allowance	\$ \$ \$ \$	16,890.08 11,183.69 12,740.00 12,000.00		
	Taxes - Withhold/ Fed/State/SS Church Vehicle Expenses Miscellaneous	\$ \$ \$	5,452.72 4,473.95 1,398.36		
			,	\$	64,138.80
OUTREACHEXPENSES					
	Radio/CD & Television Ministry Evangelislic Postage & Mailing Printing & Publishing Internet Hosting & Web Development Holy Days	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$	30.915.98 4,923.23 8,326.90 21,353.49 4,768.60 3,489.30	\$	73,777.50
CD PURCHASE & INCREASE IN EXISTING CD			\$	44,097.15	
TOTAL PAID OUT				\$	227,498.40
BALANCE CHECKING ACCT. RESERVE FUNDS	As of December 31, 2006 Certificate of Deposit #1 Certificate of Deposit #2 TOTALFUNDSONHAND			\$ \$ \$	34,991.29 25,098.42 40,955.14 101,044.85